A SPLENDID GIFT WITH THIS ISSUE!

MARVEL®

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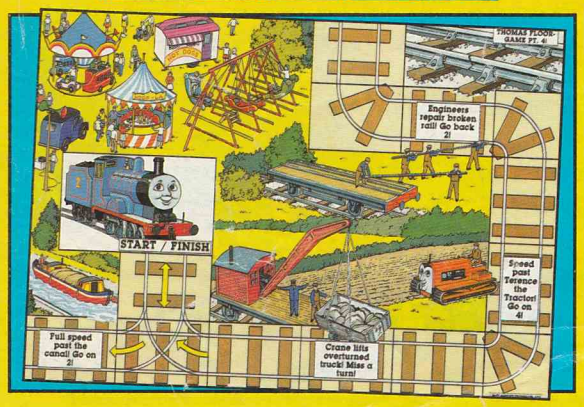
21st Nov. 92
№133 60p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev W Awdry

A THOMAS GAME COUNTER FOR YOU!

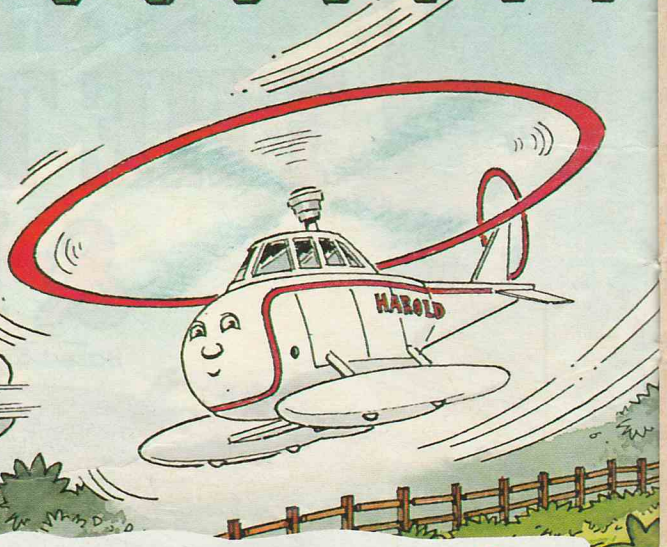


4th PART THOMAS FLOOR-GAME INSIDE!

9 770954 939046 47

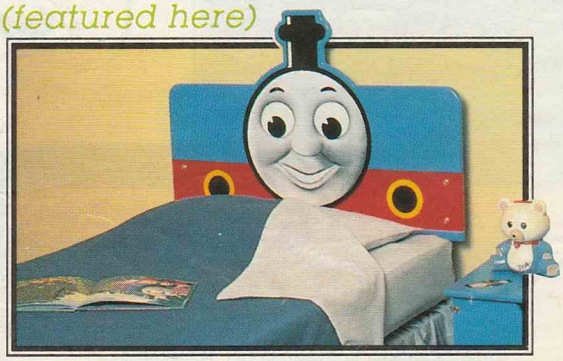
NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Diesel is a nasty, scheming engine on the Fat Controller's railway! The Fat Controller always needs to instruct him very carefully when he is given jobs to do. But, Diesel doesn't always listen to the Fat Controller and this often gets him into trouble! Turn to page 3 to find out what more trouble Diesel can cause! Peep! Peep!



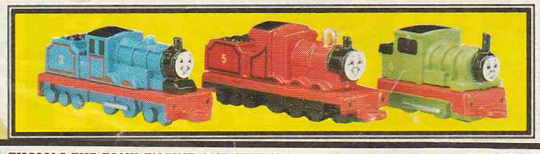
FANTASTIC NEW COMPETITION!

Turn to page 14 of this issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for your chance to win some fabulous new prizes including a special **Thomas Bed, Bedheads and Toyboxes** *(featured here)*



OUR NEXT ISSUE!

Don't miss our next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**! *ERTL (UK) Ltd* are offering you another chance to win some prizes from their superb range of **Miniature Thomas Playsets!**



HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Name .....

Address .....

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Postcode ..... **Age** ...

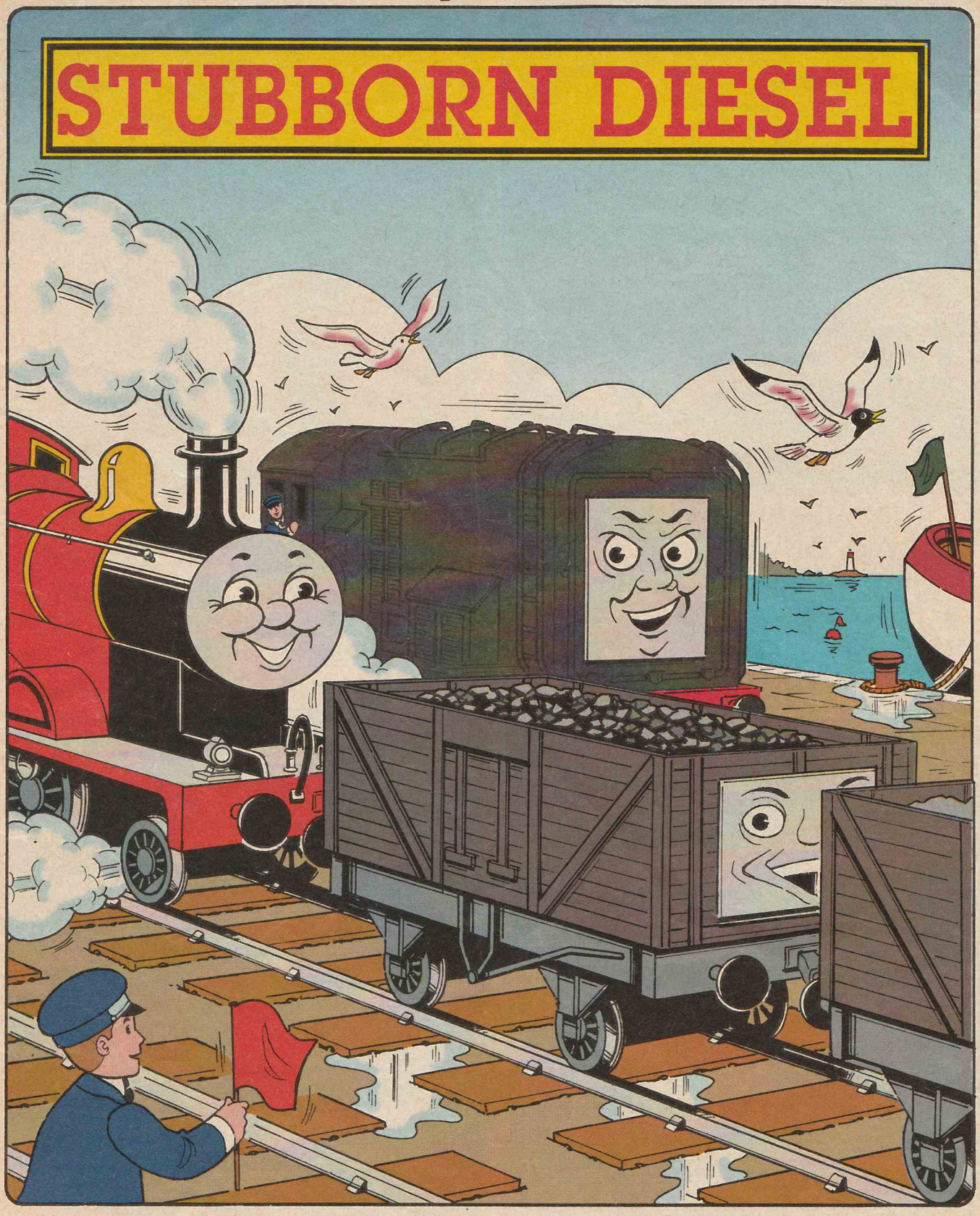
THOMAS TOKEN

ABC

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE AND FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD.** Jim Galton, Chairman, Vincent Conran, Managing Director, Paul Neary, Editorial Director. Office of publication: 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2 3DX. All **THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS** material copyright © William Heinemann Limited. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Limited to Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Limited, exclusively worldwide. All rights reserved. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this publication with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the UK. Distributed by Comag. ISSN 0954-9390

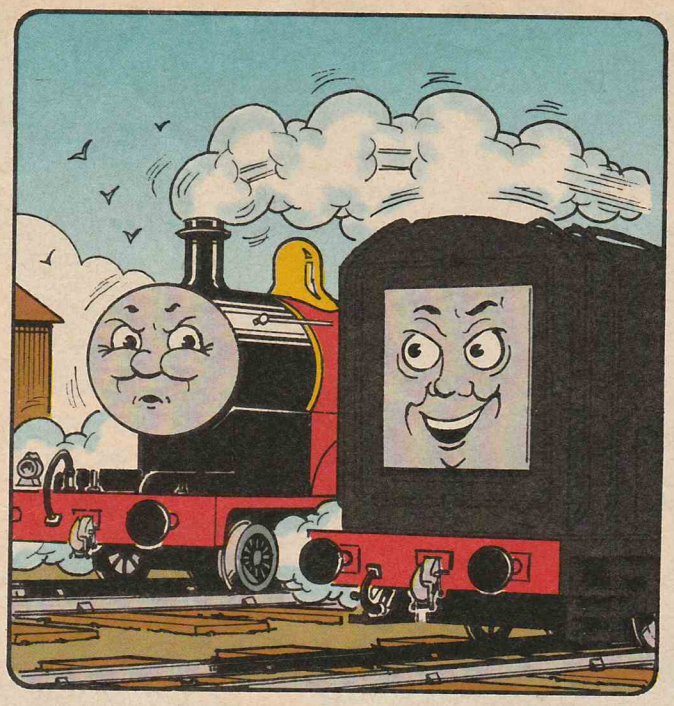
A listen and look story!

STUBBORN DIESEL



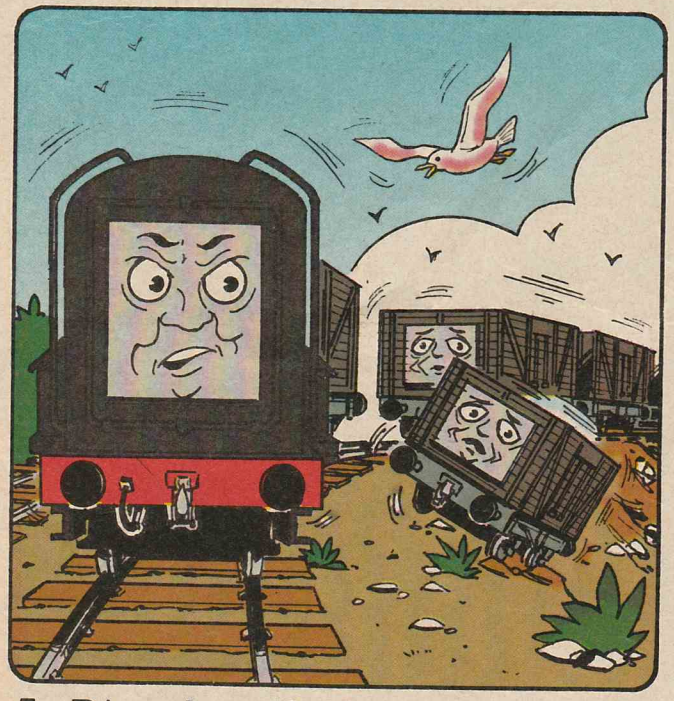
1. One day, James arrived at the Big Harbour to help pull trucks. "It's not fair!" he grumbled. "A smart red engine like me should be carrying passengers instead!"

2. Although James was cross, he always tried to be a Really Useful Engine. He was coupled to a line of trucks and he puffed into a siding as Diesel watched.

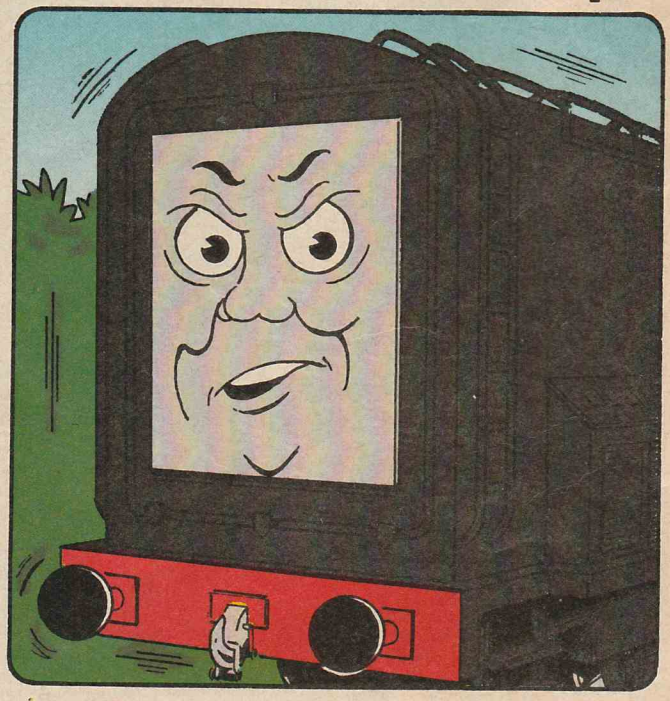


3. Diesel enjoyed teasing. He was often rude to the engines. "Hurry up!" he said in his oily voice. "I know you're only a steam engine, but can't you go faster?"

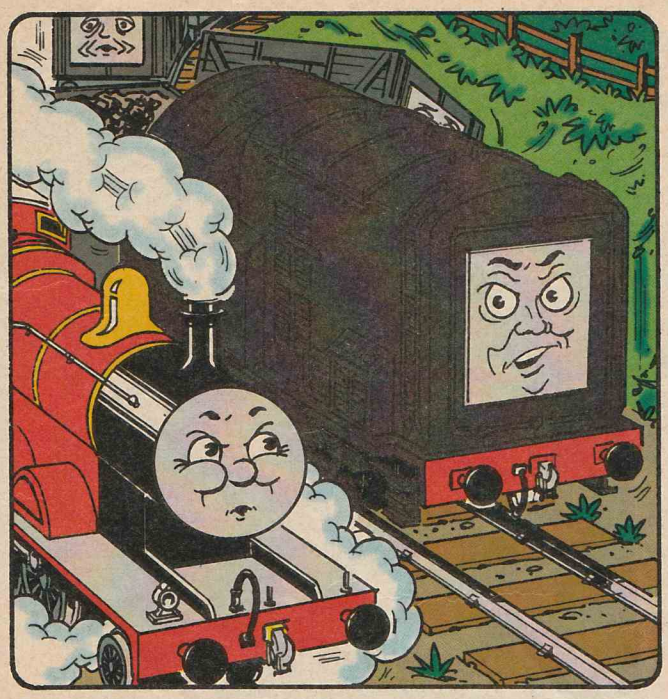
4. "A sensible engine knows it is not safe to go too fast!" said James. "Nonsense!" teased Diesel. "Watch me shunt trucks. Diesel engines shunt work more efficiently!"



5. Diesel pulled some trucks. He raced along a siding so they rattled and bumped each other. But Diesel went too fast and one of the trucks bounced off the rails.



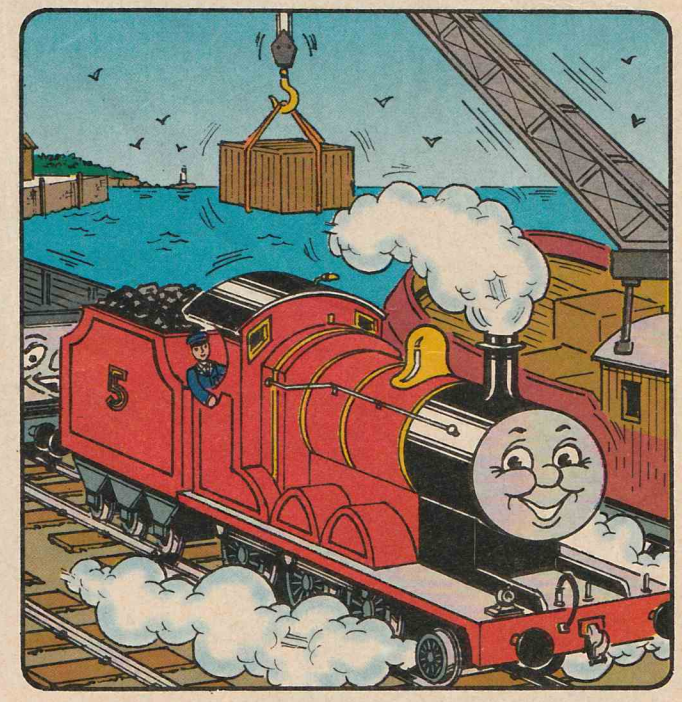
6. "Too fast! Too fast"!" cried the other trucks. Diesel did not agree! "It was your fault!" he said firmly. "Trucks are troublesome. They always cause accidents!"



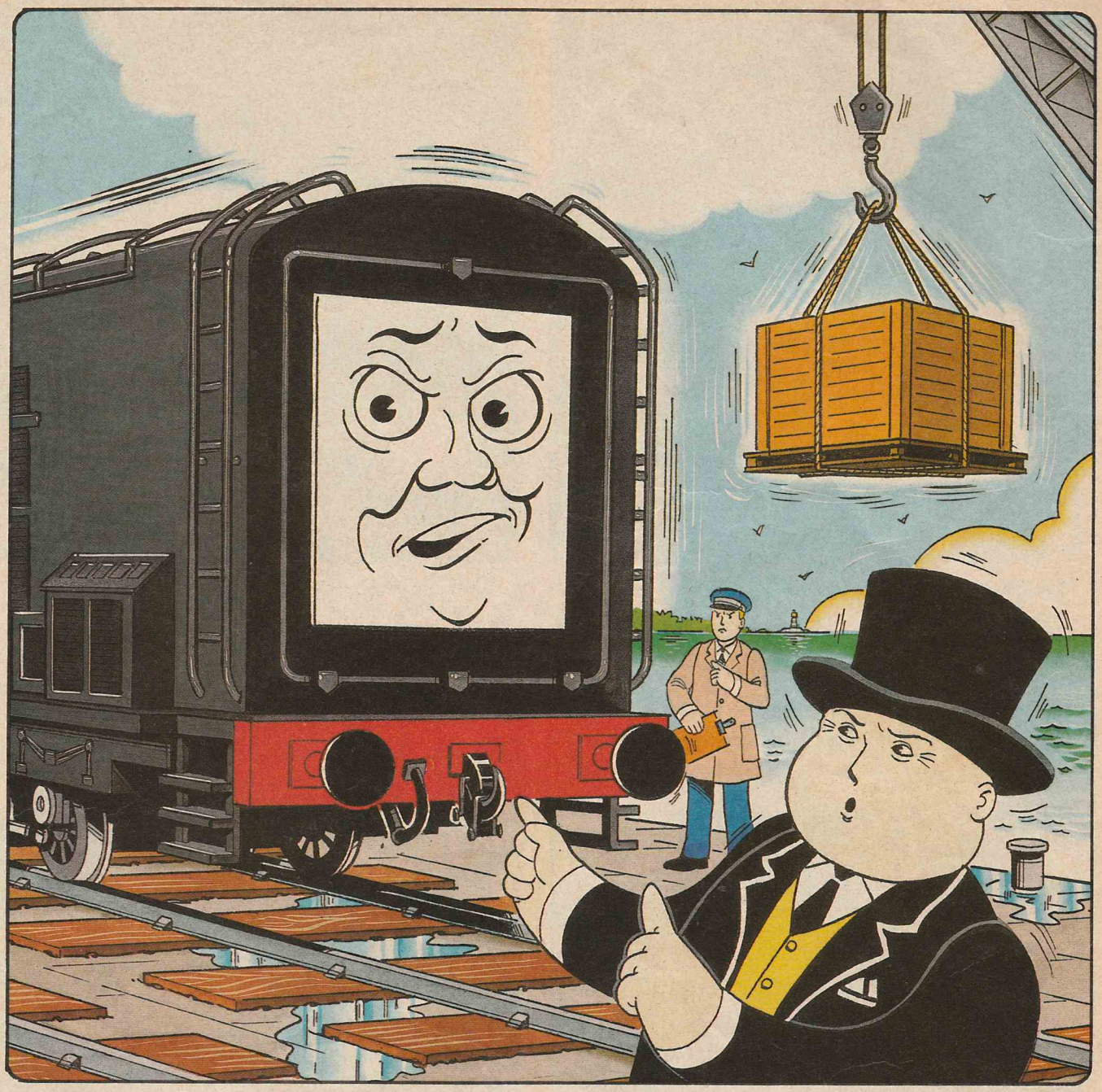
7. James overheard. "You caused the accident!" he said. "It's not safe to go so fast while pulling trucks in the yard!" "Mind your own business!" snapped Diesel.

8. The Stationmaster telephoned the Fat Controller, who arrived with two engineers. The men put the truck back on the rails. "Take more care!" he told Diesel.

9. As soon as the Fat Controller left, Diesel set off to work again. But he went just as fast as before. "Slow down!" called James, who puffed along with his trucks.



10. Then James pulled his trucks alongside a ship in the harbour. A crane lifted goods into the trucks. As each truck was filled, James rolled forward slightly.



11. There were lots of goods in the ship's hold. Diesel arrived with more trucks to be filled. "Move along, James!" he shouted. "Be patient!" huffed James as he chuffed slowly along the line. The crane lifted another load into the air. But Diesel shot forwards before the crane-driver could position the load over the truck.

12. "Look out!" cried James. The load swung against Diesel and he rocked on the rails. "You should have listened to the Fat Controller!" said James. Soon the Fat Controller arrived. "I hope you aren't hurt!" he said. "I'm alright!" replied Diesel. "Try to remember that a slow engine is a safe engine!" said the Fat Controller.

THE END

In our next issue; The special christmas tree!

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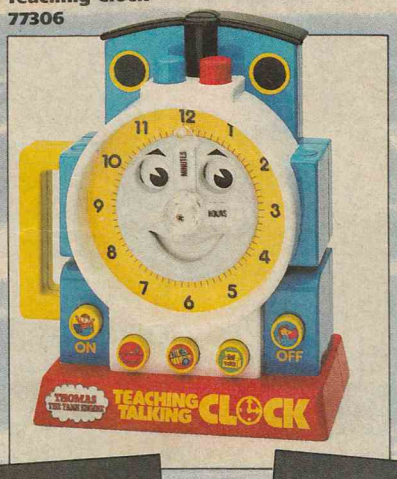

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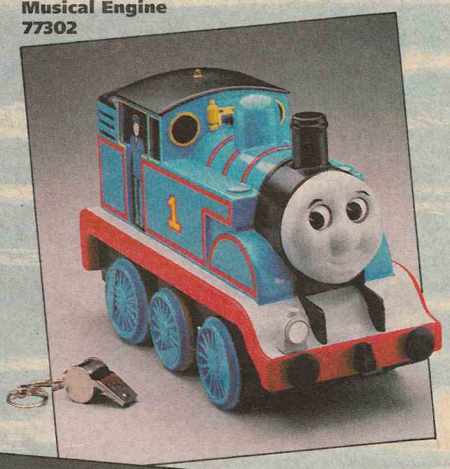

Thomas Remote Control Engine
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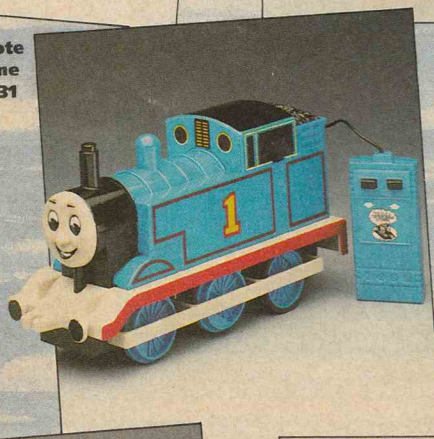
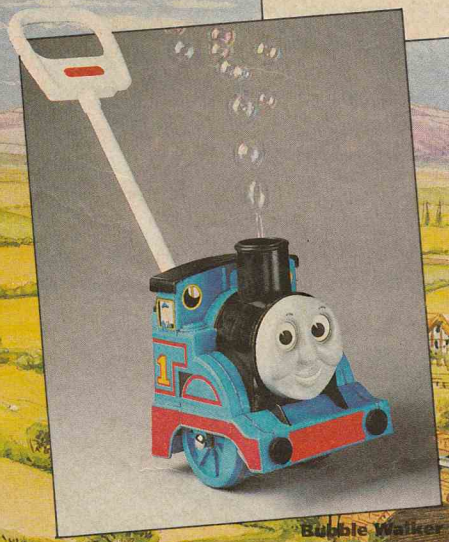


Thomas the Tank Motorised 4082
Percy Motorised 4140



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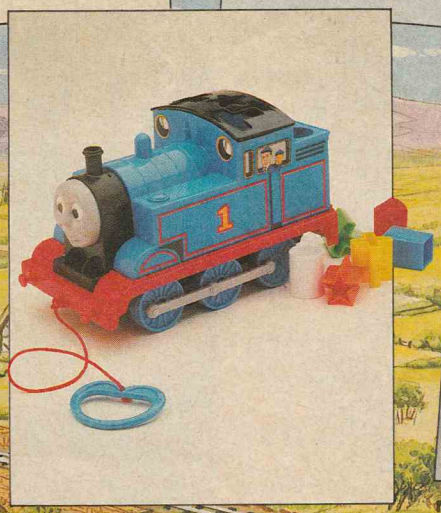

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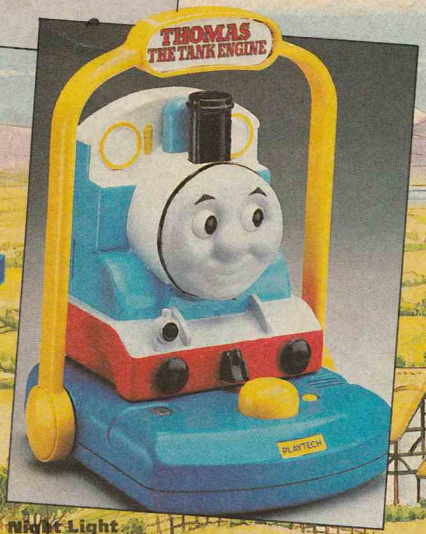

Night Light
77311

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BRITT ALLCROFT

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Thomas and the Tunnel!

One morning, Thomas was delivering some animal feed to a hill farm along his branch line. He waited patiently in a siding by the farm while his trucks were unloaded.

Thomas saw a strange little mound of earth in the grass. He was surprised.

"Buffers and boilers!" gasped Thomas. He spoke to his driver. "Lots of bumps are coming up in that field! Why is that happening?" The driver laughed.

"Moles!" he replied. "They are animals that live in tunnels under the ground."

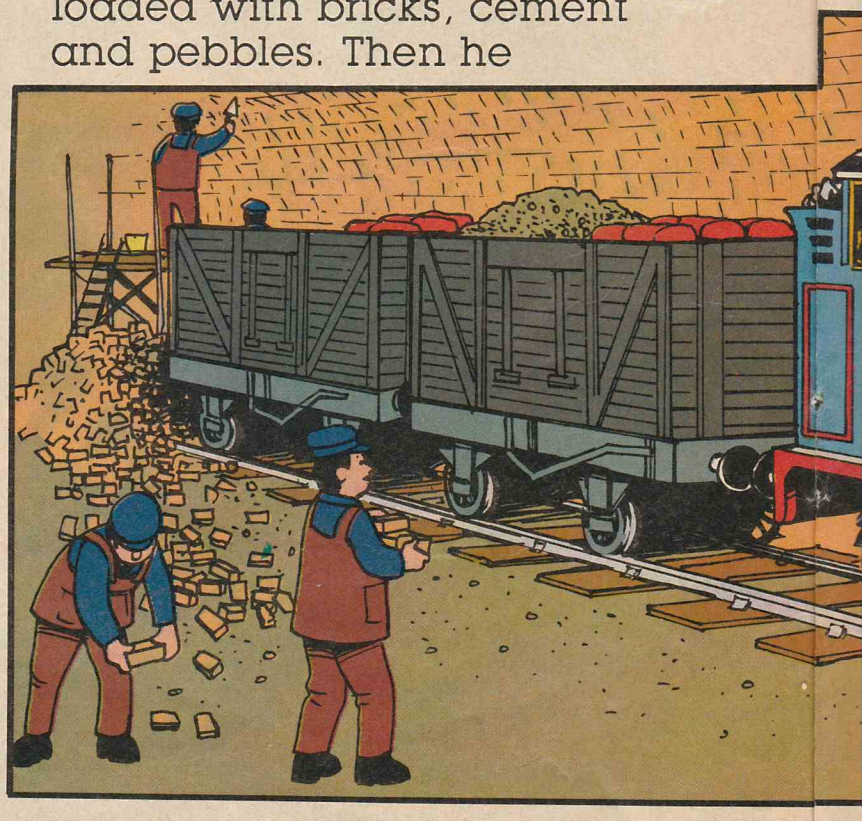
"Imagine!" said Thomas. "It must be very dark being in tunnels all the time."

"The moles don't seem to mind!" laughed Thomas's driver. "As they dig the tunnels, they push up the earth they move to make those bumps! They are called molehills!"

Thomas thought moles were very clever indeed. When he returned to the Main Station yard, he told the other engines about the molehills. Then the Fat Controller came to see Thomas.

"Some engineers are repairing a tunnel on the seaside line," he said. "You are to take them the equipment and material they need. The line can't be used until the tunnel is completely safe!" Percy overheard.

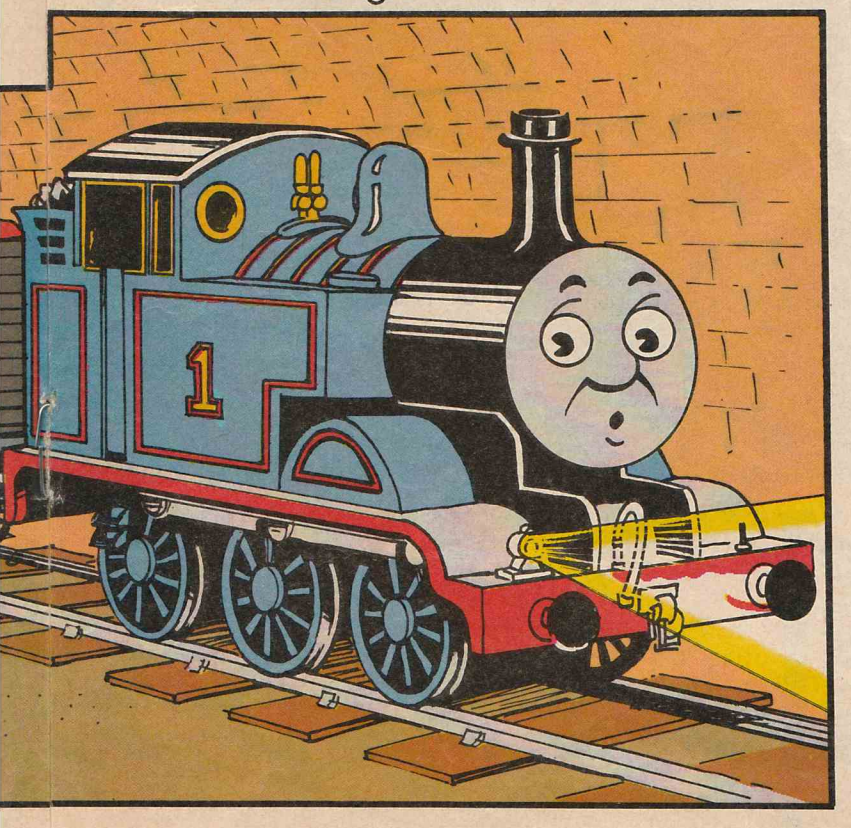
"It sounds like a job for a mole!" he teased Thomas. Thomas's trucks were loaded with bricks, cement and pebbles. Then he



steamed on his way. When Thomas arrived at the tunnel entrance, the chief engineer told the driver to take Thomas right into the tunnel where the trucks would be unloaded.

"Some engineers are working inside the tunnel," he said. Thomas's headlamp was turned on and he puffed slowly into the tunnel. Deeper and deeper he went.

At last, Thomas reached the part where engineers were strengthening the tunnel wall. Thomas could go no further. He pulled up and some of the men began to unload Thomas's trucks. They stacked the bricks near the line, behind Thomas.



Suddenly, Thomas heard a bump! Then another clatter! The bricks were beginning to fall one by one until they all toppled over and fell across the track. Thomas was shaken by the rumbling noise inside the tunnel!

Luckily, no one was hurt, but Thomas could not back out of the tunnel.

"Horrors! I can't go forwards, either!" he gasped. "I'm trapped in the tunnel!"

"Don't worry," said Thomas's driver. "We'll soon move those bricks!"

Thomas was very pleased when the task was done. He puffed eagerly out of the tunnel into the sunlight again.

"I don't think I'd like to live in a tunnel!" he told his driver. "I'm glad I'm an engine, not a mole!"

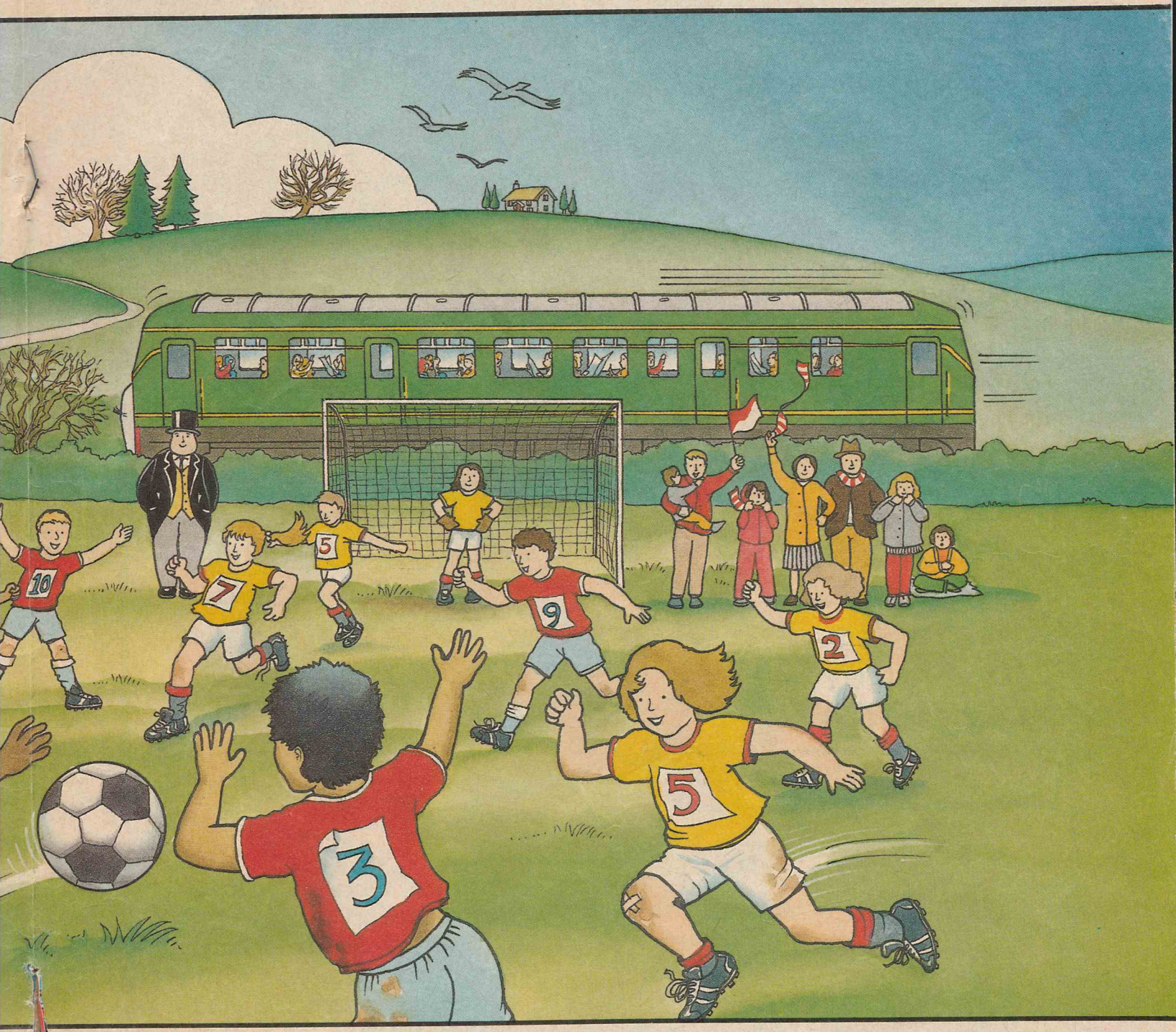
THE END!

Past the footb

Which engine can you see?
What colour is she?
What is she passing by?
How many footballers can you see?

Point to the big football!
How many people are wat
Point to the Fat Controller!
Can you see the goal posts

ball match!



ll!

watching the football match?

oller!

posts?

Note for parents

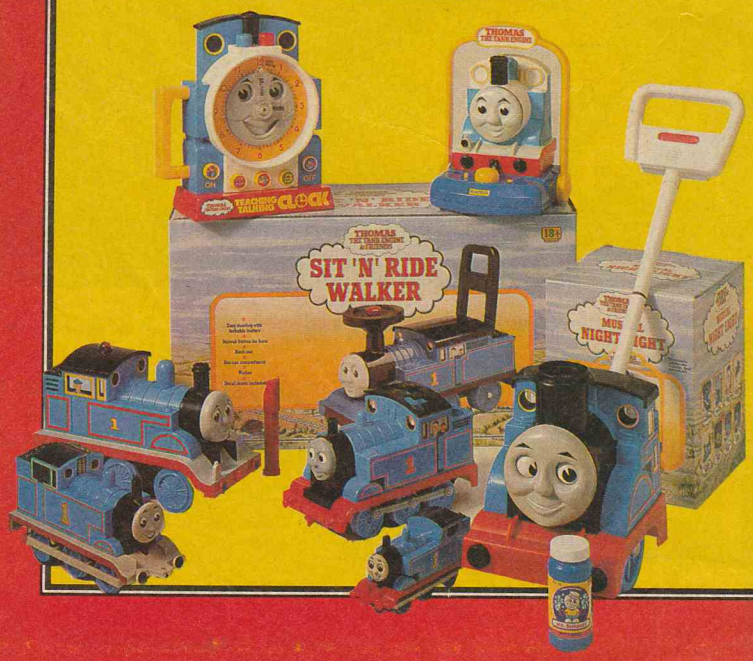
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a **'mural page'** in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Off to the nativity play!

AUTUMN SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Peep! Peep! All aboard, for the latest compilation of some of Thomas the Tank Engine's best loved stories, puzzles and activities inside the brand new, splendid Collected Edition No. 8! Order your copy TODAY!

ON SALE NOW!



There is also a unique competition in our Collected Edition! And the lucky winners will receive some fabulous prizes from *ERTL (UK) Ltd's* new range of Pre-school toys featuring teaching clocks, bubblewalkers, shape sorters and musical night lights (see opposite)!

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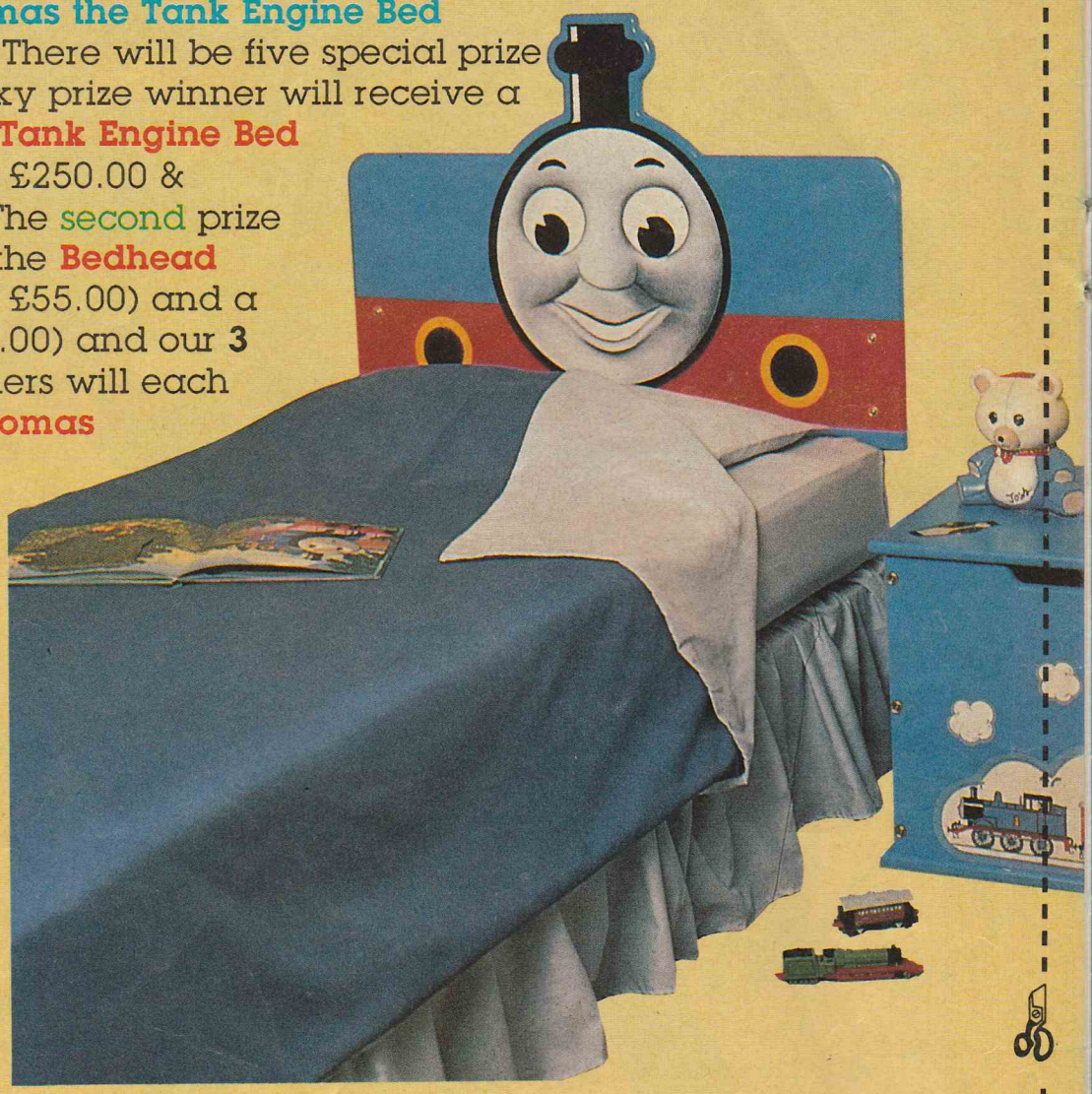
JOIN THE DOTS!

What game are the children playing today,
Join the dots and then you can say!

COMPETITION!

Win a splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine Bed** **Bedhead** or **Toybox**! There will be five special prize winners. The **1st** lucky prize winner will receive a special **Thomas the Tank Engine Bed** (retail value around £250.00 & featured opposite). The second prize winner will receive the **Bedhead** (retail value around £55.00) and a **Toybox** (around £80.00) and our **3** lucky **3rd** prize winners will each receive a special **Thomas Toybox** (retail value around £80.00). For your nearest stockist of these products, you can telephone 0258 858470 . All prizes should be despatched before Christmas 1992!



Closing date: 3rd December 1992!

How to enter:
All you have to do to win one of these prizes is carefully complete our Thomas rhyme (see below). The rhyme describes a well known engine on the Fat Controller's Railway. You have to fill in the name of the engine to complete the verse. Then fill in your entry form and send this page to ***Thomas Beds Competition, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.***

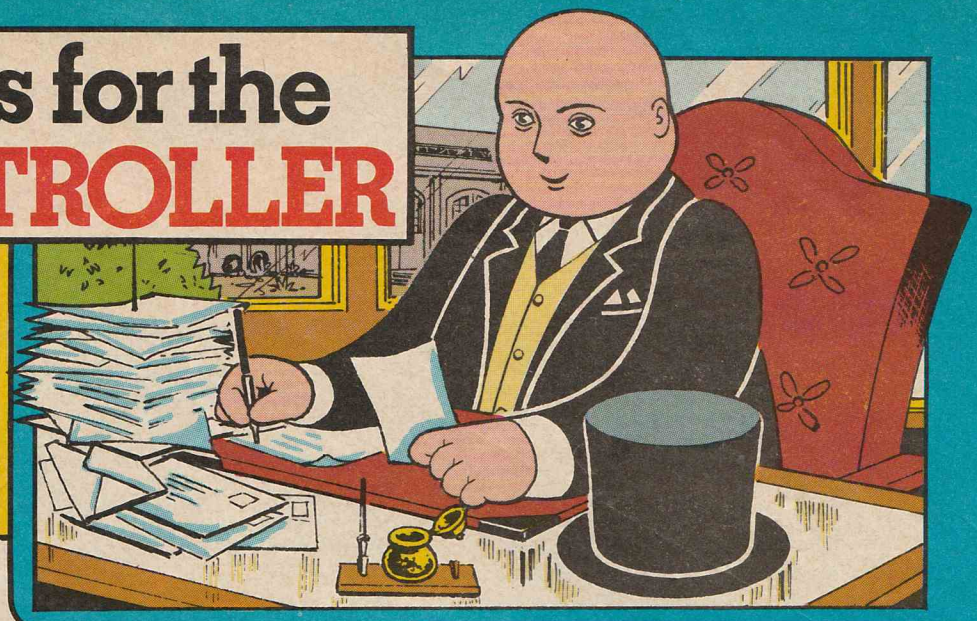
Name.....Age.....
Address.....
.....
.....
.....Postcode.....

Please note that Marvel Comics occasionally makes its mailing list available to a carefully screened list of companies whose products we feel would be of interest. Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive these mailings! ☐

I am one of the darkest engines you will ever see,
I am not always as well behaved as I could be!
My friends think I am a very oily and nasty sight!
My name is _ _ _ _ _ _! I wonder if you're right!

Rules: This competition is open to readers other than employees and their families of Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, and Marvel Comics Ltd. The Editors decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered.

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

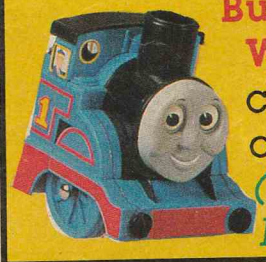
'Caring Engine'

Dear Fat Controller, My mummy and daddy took me to a local fête and **Thomas the Tank Engine** was there giving rides to all the children. He also helped to raise alot of money for sick children!

Love from **Perry Bates**, aged 3.

I must say, your local fête was just as successful as some of the fêtes I have arranged on the Island of Sodor! It also seems that Thomas is a very Caring as well as Useful Engine!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win this splendid **Thomas Bubble Walker** courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*



GREAT MUSEUMS!

Dear Fat Controller, I went to **Bressingham**! There is a traction engine museum there! Some of the engines look like **Trevor!** I also saw **"The Royal Train Coach"** and **"The Royal Scott Express!"** They are both beautiful engines!

Love from **James Murray**, aged 6.

*I do agree, James! **Bressingham** must have one of the finest Railway Museums, especially if there are Traction engines there that look like Trevor!*

FAMOUS CHILDREN!

Dear Fat Controller, Do any of the children in **'Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends'** have names?

Love from **Rory Morrison**, aged 3.

Well! Well! Two of the most well known children on the Island of Sodor are called Stephen and Bridget! They are my grandchildren too!

BIRTHDAYS!

Special greetings go out to...

Jamie Wisbey, Ian Ruffer (38671), Matthew Bradley (38141), Benjamin Hawling (32168), Jamie Snell (30308), James Puckey (33086), Lucy Hallett, Robert Paul Brooks, Natalie Lawrence and Alex Bedrijezuk.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least nine weeks in advance!

Yours

Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

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The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
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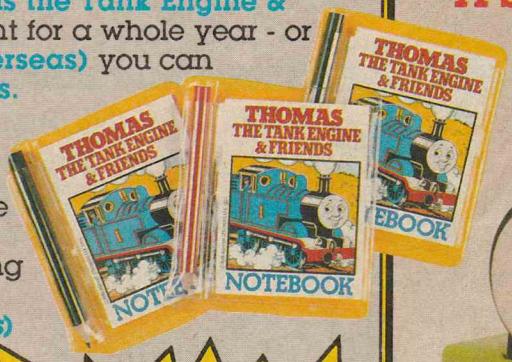

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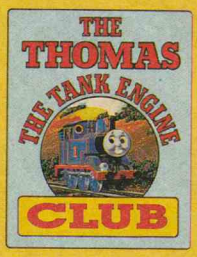

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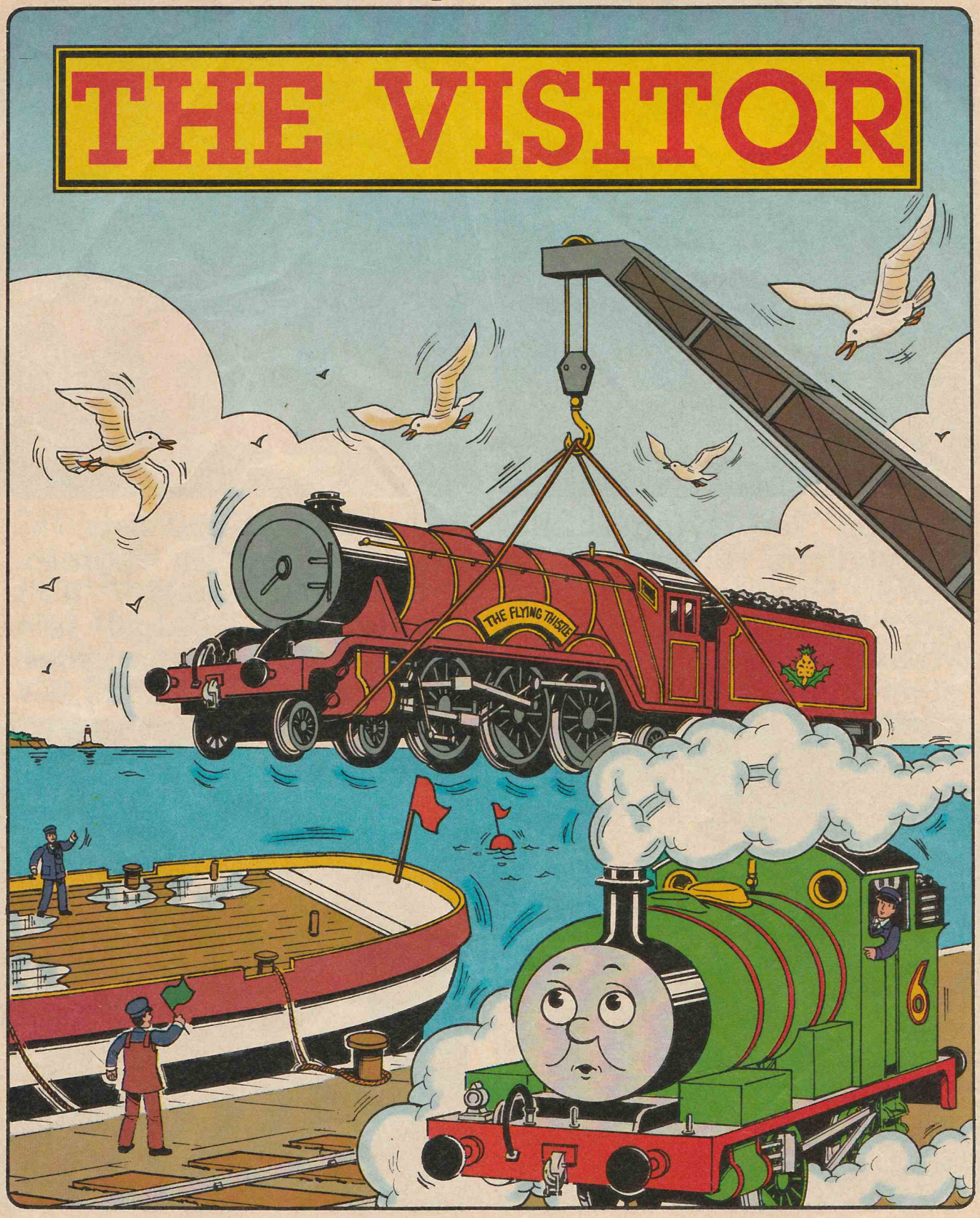
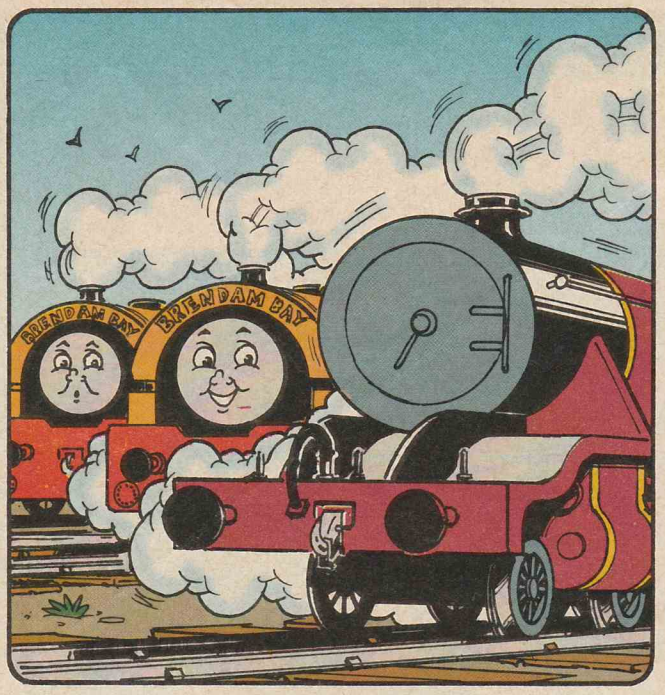
A listen and look story!



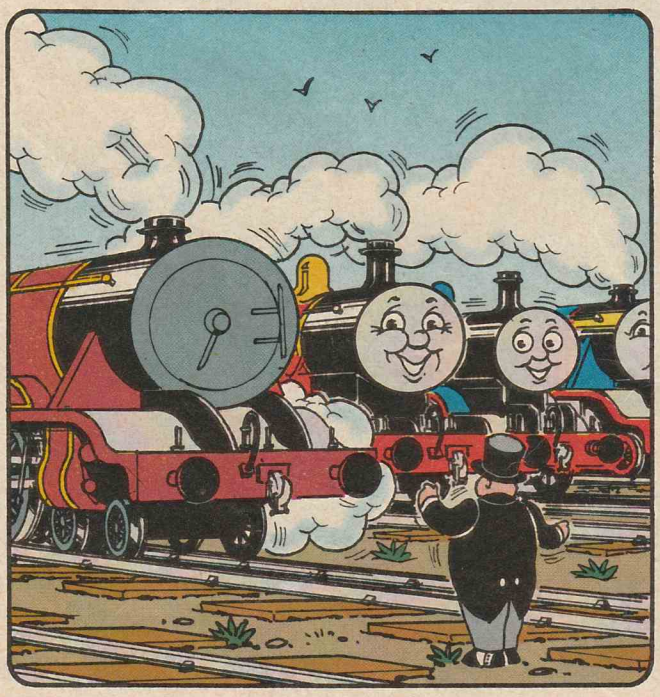
1. One day, Percy arrived at the Big Harbour. A crane was lifting an engine off a ship. Percy thought it was a most splendid engine. It was called 'The Flying Thistle'.

2. Percy raced to the Main Station Yard to tell the other engines. They thought he was teasing. "It's true!" said Percy. "You can't fool us!" laughed Thomas.

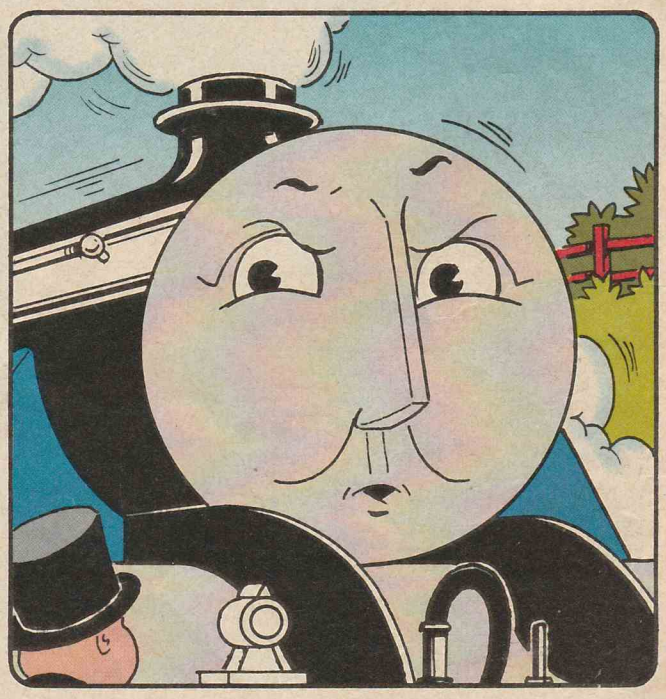


3. Soon 'The Flying Thistle' arrived. He rolled into the yard. The Fat Controller went to meet him. "See for yourselves!" said Percy. The other engines were amazed!

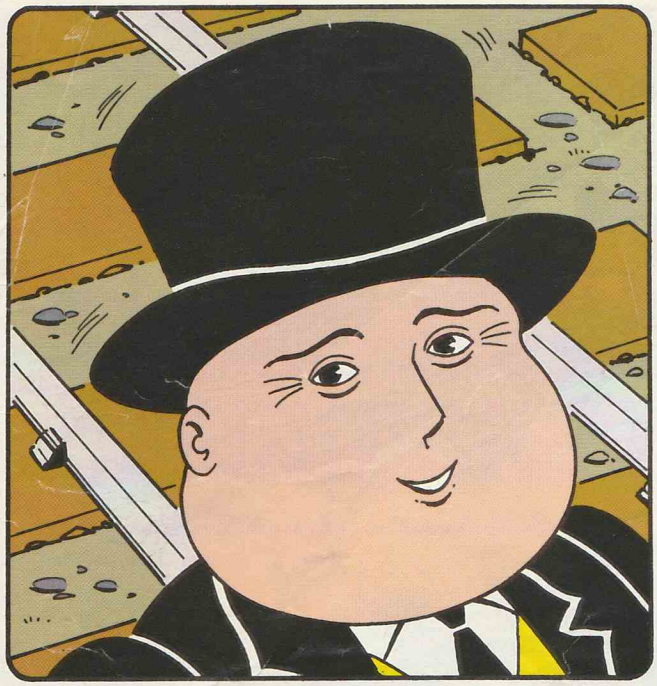
4. At last Bill and Ben, the twin Saddle-tank engines, spoke up cheekily. "He's smarter than Gordon!" said Bill. "He must be the fastest engine ever!" cried Ben.



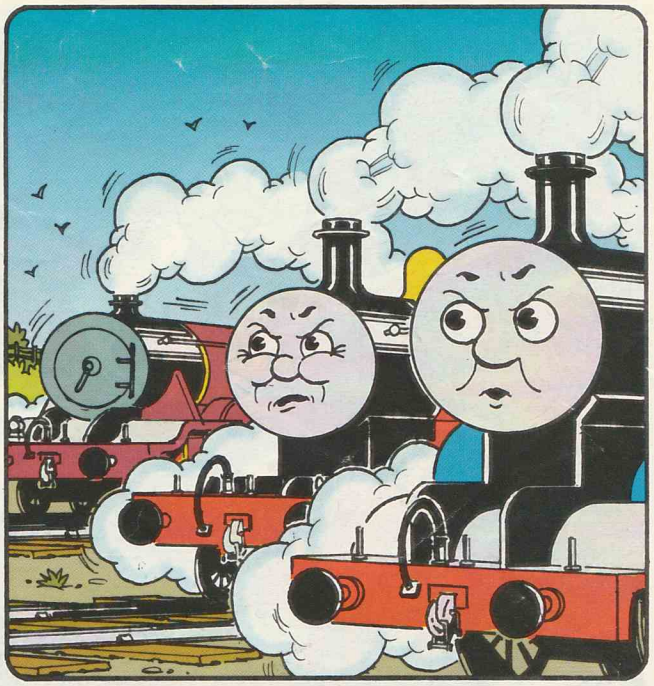
5. 'The Flying Thistle' stood gleaming in the sun while the Fat Controller addressed his engines. "'The Flying Thistle' is a visitor," he said. "He has come to help!"



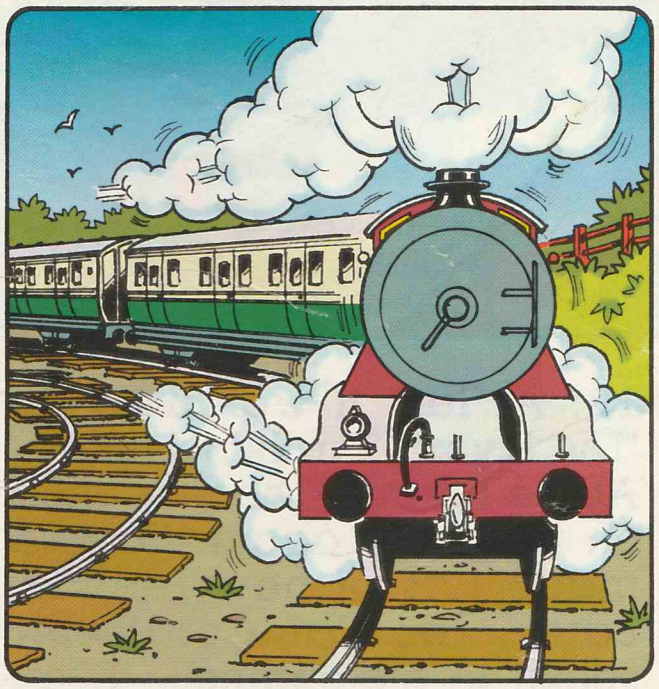
6. The engines heard the visitor would carry passengers on an old line that had been reopened. Gordon was puzzled. "Why do we need another engine?" he huffed.



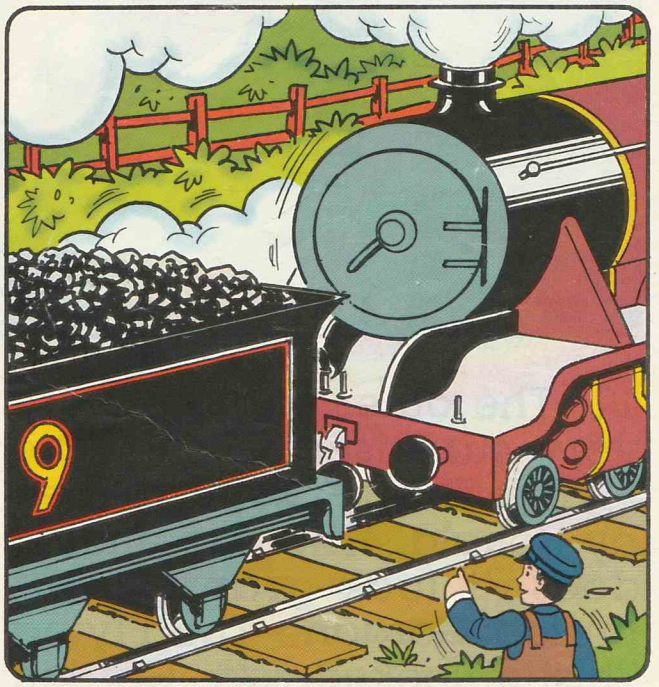
7. "All my engines are busy on other lines until I can rearrange the timetables!" said the Fat Controller. "'The Flying Thistle' usually pulls fast trains on the mainland.



8. 'The Flying Thistle' thought he was much too important to talk to engines on a little island railway. The other engines were cross. "Cheek!" they fumed.



9. Next day, 'The Flying Thistle' hurtled along the reopened line. Suddenly, steam began to hiss from one of his pipes. The engine lost speed and then stopped.



10. Donald and Douglas were sent for. 'The Flying Thistle' was uncoupled from the carriages. Donald pulled him back to the yard and Douglas took the train.

11. The other engines were very surprised to see 'The Flying Thistle' being pulled by Donald. "That big engine doesn't look grand now!" puffed Gordon. 'The Flying Thistle' looked sad. Gordon felt sorry for him. "Cheer up!" he called. "You'll soon be mended!" said Percy. 'The Flying Thistle' was pleased the engines were so kind.

12. At last it was time for 'The Flying Thistle' to return. At the harbour, he was lifted on to a ship again. He had made lots of new friends. Later, the Fat Controller spoke to his engines. "Even a splendid engine like 'The Flying Thistle' must learn that all engines are important, whatever their size!" he said. Gordon agreed.

THE END

In our next issue: The giant engine!